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 Security Information
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Estonian SSR)
 SUBJECT Military Installations in Tallinn

DATE DISTR 2, September 1951

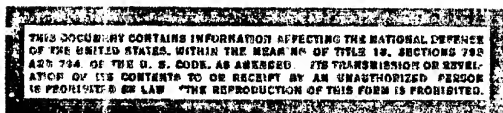
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1. 1951, a four-story building on the north side of Liberty Square with Johannes Church in Tallinn (N 59-25, E 24-45), about 900 meters south of the castle, was occupied by a Soviet corps headquarters. The building had a side wing with a cafe and stores on the first floor. In early 1950, the headquarters had been reorganized from an army headquarters into a corps headquarters. In late 1950, Lieutenant General Khasikov (fnu) was the senior officer. Officers of various branches of service including air force and naval officers were frequently observed entering or leaving the building. It was believed by the population that the headquarters was the supreme Soviet command in Estonian SSR. From 20 to 25 passenger cars were parked in the courtyard at all times.

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2. 1950, the headquarters of an army corps occupied two large buildings on the east side of Kaarli Taen and directly south of the Orthodox cathedral. In early 1950, the headquarters was reorganized into a division headquarters and the Estonian members of the staff were transferred to the interior of the USSR. Prior to May 1951, the headquarters was commanded by a major general. The staff included 2 lieutenant colonels, an undetermined number of majors and captains, and 70 to 80 other officers and enlisted personnel. The officers included tank, artillery, and engineer officers. Most enlisted men wore green service color. In the fall of 1949, an Estonian soldier said that his tank unit, which was assigned to headquarters in Tallinn, was stationed in Keila (N 59-18, E 24-25).

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3. 1951, the demobilization headquarters of the army corps occupied an old three-story building on the south side of Kingisepaa, formerly Livalaya, and directly west of a railroad track on the southeastern perimeter of the city.
4. An infantry battalion of 300 to 400 men wearing green service color was billeted on the same side of the street, east of the above mentioned railroad track and south of the old market-place. In early 1950, the unit consisted almost exclusively of Estonians, but by early 1951 it included approximately equal numbers of Estonians and Russians. Only two or three trucks were parked in the courtyard.

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5. Prior to April 1951, the Tondi Barracks, located on the south side of Matrossov Taen, south-southwest of the city, and completely reconstructed by late 1949, was occupied by a Russian motorized artillery unit. The installation included five large four-story buildings and an unidentified number of open wooden sheds, about 60 meters long, which were used to store guns and motor vehicles. A riding school building northeast of the barracks installation was used by officers from the installation and private riding associations. The unit was commanded by a colonel who wore artillery insignia. The soldiers, whose number was estimated at 1,000 to 1,200 men, wore red service color and artillery insignia. No Estonians served in the unit. In early 1951, about 40 light guns and 10 to 12 rocket launchers were observed from the street. According to local residents, the unit was equipped with a total of about 100 guns. Motor vehicles observed in and around the sheds included about 100 ZIS and Molotov trucks and about 100 factory new Studebaker trucks on blocks. The men were frequently observed training with guns in the courtyard. In the fall of 1949, a training ground used by elements of the artillery unit from the Tondi Barracks was located in the Taen (N59-15, E25-55) area.
6. Prior to April 1951, a Soviet headquarters was housed in an office building located about 1,000 meters north of the main railroad station on the south side of Girgensoni Taen, and inscribed "Komendatura". The headquarters, commanded by a Soviet colonel, was believed to be subordinate to a naval headquarters at Charles' Church, about 800 meters south of the castle, which was commanded by an admiral.
7. The MVD main administration for Estonia was located in a large three-story building, about 1,000 meters east of the main railroad station between Lai Taen and Pikk Taen. The office, the head of which was addressed "Minister", communicated daily with Moscow by liaison airplane. The office was estimated to be staffed with over 200 individuals including about 100 women. Only about 10 percent of the men among the staff wore uniforms, which were equipped with blue service color. This office also controlled the great resettlement program in 1948, which dispersed the Estonian population.
8. An MVD unit of about 200 men wearing blue service color was assigned to this MVD office. The unit occupied a cantonment on the north side of Kopli Street, northwest of the city, opposite a cotton factory. A radio station was located directly northwest of the cantonment. The unit was commanded by a major. It was equipped with rifles and sub-machine guns and 12 to 15 trucks serving as personnel carriers for 12 to 15 men.
9. The supreme MGB office for Estonia was located in the building of the former Estonian war ministry, about 1,000 meters northeast of the main railroad station, between Lai Taen and Pikk Taen and south of a church. The garages of the office were located on the south side of Saartuki, about 100 meters west of the building. In late 1950, the office was headed by Soviet General Moskalenko (phonetic spelling) (fnu). It was staffed with officers and enlisted men wearing red, black and green service color, and militia and naval officers. The office was equipped with 40 to 50 motor vehicles including about 10 trucks, which were parked in front of the building.

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10. A transport MGB office located directly at the main railroad station was subordinate to this office. It was headed by a Soviet colonel and staffed with about 50 civilians.
 11. The militia main administration for Tallinn was located in an angle-shaped five-story building on the south side of Paernu Mantee, opposite Lauristini, formerly Rocsikrantsi, in the city center. The office was headed by a Soviet colonel wearing a blue uniform, and staffed with five Soviet majors and captains in charge of the five departments and about 200 Estonian employees wearing light-blue-bordered blue uniforms and blue cap bands.
 12. Prior to May 1951, a border guard searchlight unit of several hundred men wearing green service color occupied two buildings near the market-place in the Noemme Borough southwest of the city. The unit was commanded by a major and equipped with 8 to 10 trucks mounting searchlights, about 120 cm in diameter, which were constantly parked in the courtyard. Two trucks mounting searchlights were frequently observed leaving the billets. Searchlight stations of 4 to 6 searchlights were observed about 8 km northeast of Tallinn near Merivaelja, northwest of the city on the Kopli Peninsula and about 6 km west of the city near the children's home on the shore in Rakalmara. Practices with searchlights were frequently held in the Tallinn area at night.
 13. After 1948, a militia officer candidate school occupied by about 200 officers candidates and 20 to 25 officers was located in two buildings directly north of the market place of Noemme. The school was commanded by an MVD colonel, whose deputy was a lieutenant colonel, and was controlled by the MVD main administration in Tallinn. The trainees, almost all of whom were Estonians, were organized into two companies. They were about 20 years old and wore army uniforms with red-bordered epulettes and blue caps with red bands. On the completion of a 2-year course, they were promoted to the rank of lieutenant and left the school.
 14. An MVD supply depot of about 15 large low building was located north of Noemme and north of a cemetery. According to Estonian workers, the installation was commanded by a major and staffed with 3 officers, 25 non-commissioned officers and an equal number of civilian workers. The depot contained rations and clothing stored in the low buildings, and ammunition stored in excavated bunkers. Incoming shipments arrived by train, outgoing shipments were hauled by trucks coming from various Estonian cities and driven by MVD members or militia.
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1. Comment. The 10 Gds Army Hq and the VIII Est Gds Rifle Corps Hq were believed to be stationed in Tallinn. No previous report mentioned the reorganization of these headquarters into a corps and a division headquarters. In view of the entire report it is believed that the resettler's statements were correct. It is not possible to identify Lieutenant General Kasakov (fnu), the commander of the corps headquarters, as there are several generals bearing this name. General Moskalenko (fnu), mentioned in paragraph 9, may be identical with Lieutenant General I.I. Moskalenko, who received a decoration, in October 1945, in his capacity as a counter-intelligence officer.

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